ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

LETTER FROM T. ADOLPHUS TROLLOPE.

THE LATE MILLIONAIRE DUKE OF GALLIERA-TRAGIC INCIDENT IN HIS CAREER-SINGULAR INDIFFER-ENCE OF HIS HEIR TO RANK AND WEALTH-THE RAILEOAD QUESTION STILL UNSETTLED SEV-ERAL REFORMS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

[FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] ROME, Dec. 16.-Your readers will have heard of the almost sudden and very unexpected death of the millionaire Duke of Galliera. He had entered largely into industrial enterprises, especially the construction of railways, and was one of the largest, perhaps the largest, capitalist in Italy. Your readers have denbtless also heard of his recent muniticent gift to the city of Genoa of 20,000,000 francs (\$4,000,000), and of all the national demonstrations of gratitude for so princely an act. And the other day he was carried to the grave at Genoa in the simplest fashion, according to the provisions of his expressed will. And now strange stories are circulated respecting certain incidents of his past life. It was very generally supposed by the public, which had no special knowledge of his history, that he was childless. Such was not the case. He has left a son, who, it would seem, has for many years been separated not only physically but morally from his father. He is, we are now told, a teacher of languages at Lyons, who maintains himself, and has consistently done so, by his own labor, absolutely refusing to take any share of the muneuse wealth of his father. And this is understood to have been the case wholly in accordance with the wishes of the son, and to the great grief and regret of the father. And to account for this determination of him, who is now the Marchese Filippe de Ferrari and a poor teacher of languages at Lyons, the papers are relating sensational stories to the effect that one night, many years ago, the Duke in his palace at Genoa, in a fit of ungovernable passion, shot dead an old and faithful servant. It is narrated how, in the dead of the night, the Duke alone accompanied the body of the murdered man to the cemetery; how the next morning, the facts having become known, atumultuous and menacing crowd surrounded the palace, demanding vengeance and retribution only to find the palace shut and deserted, and its immater gone. The Duke left Italy, and for a time his place knew him no more. A second time, only a few months ago, a crowd of the citizens of Genoa assembled around the same princely dwelling, veciferating praises and imploring blessings on benefactor to their city. A third the noble time, but a few days since, the same throng once again gathered around the same palace, but this time sad, silent, and depressed, to witness the body of the late Duke carried forth without pomp of any kind on the same road along which he had formerly followed the humble bier of the victim of his anger And the inference is drawn-insinuated rather than declared-that the explanation of the separation of the father and the son, and the persistent refusal of the latter to accept any portion of his father's wealth, is to be found in these circumstances. But it is also known that the present Duke of Galliera has always professed political principles of the ultra democratic d socialistic kind. And it seems to me far more lil by that his refusal to participate in the enormous profits of capital has proceeded simply from a concientions determination to live up to his principles. His father's wealth had nothing to do with the unfortunate incident which has been mentioned, supposing the account to be altogether accurate. But it is certain that this wealth was accumulated by that action of capital, the denunciation of which is the fundamental principle of the social philosophy professed by the present Marchese de Ferrari.

Having given you the above gossip about the late Duke of Galliera and his son, I ought to give you the gist of a letter from the latter, which appears in the papers of yesterday. It is addressed to the Parisian Gaulois. Premising that an article in the Geolois respecting hun and his affairs contains many inexactitudes, he begs to be allowed to rectify them: You say, in the first place, that I have renounced the succession of my father. The truth is that there has been neither acceptance nor renunciation; and that in the state of the right of succession in present in suspense (this is not very clear, but I translate literally) this question will be settled amicably between relatives and friends in such a manner as to satisfy the wishes of all persons, without offending the susceptibilities of anybody. This arrangement will be easy, since the interested persons are perfectly in accord. * In your article you call me Signor di Galliera. Now my name is in'h foreign country. But I am a French citizen. Born in France, I chose French nationality by virtue of Article 3 of the Code Civil. And having so done, I could not assume a foreign denomination without the authorization of the Chancery, which I shall take good care never to ask for. By the mere fact of my having chosen a French nationality, this title has become intransmissible. Whether it shall become extinct, or whether it shall be revived in Italy in a collateral branch of my father's family, is a question which my mother, sole proprietiess of the estate, and sole judge of the propriety of transmitting it with the title attached to it, is and re mains the sole arbiter. Her generous heart, he exquisite tact, and her right and noble feeling which all Paris appreciates, will dictate to her the resolution which is most wise and just under the circum stances. Lastly, you say that I am a socialist. And you are abundantly right in so calling me if socialism consists in being a sincere republican, in an aspiration to just reforms, and in desiring that the traces of civil war should be canceled. But the theories attributed to me by you are gratuitous suppositions. I am too young to have a majore and fixed opinion on such delicate matters. Perhaps I may speak when I shall have studied them at my leisure, and when experience shall have instructed me. Till then I do not feel that I have the right to do so," &c., &c.

A great sensation has been produced here, as you may suppose, by the terrible tragedy at the Brook lyn Theater. We are all moralizing the tale with a mutato nomina de le fabula narvatur." For there is not a theater in Italy where a similar misfortune might not produce results similarly deplorable. In all, the means of exit are terribly insufficientsufficient even for the requirements of daily con venience-and such as are certain to produce tragic consequences on the largest scale in case of a sudden panic. And this with the Coliseum before our eyes-the means of approach to and egress from which are such that the tens of thousands who might be collected in it could evacuate the building without the possibility of contusion in a few min

In writing to you of the change of ministry which occurred here on the 18th of last March, I sufficiently showed you that my sympathies were with the late Cabinet-the party of the "Moderates," a they are called in distinction from the "Liberals. which is the name somewhat absurdly arregated to thomselves by the party of the "Left"-absurdly, because all are Liberals here except the Clericalsand that I thought that the present men had unfairly ousted their predecessors on a chance question -that of the railways-which could not be or become any real principle of division between the two parties. The result, as regards the promised railway legislation, has hitherto abundantly justified my opinion and anticipations. The matter remains exactly where it was. The "Liberals" have done absolutely nothing. The private company which was to have presented itself, and to which the working of the lines was to have been intrusted, has not made the smallest appearance above the borizon. And it is believed that the Government have experienced a very unpleasant disappointment in this respect from the death of the Duke of Galtiera. It was universally believed in the Autumn that a company presenting all the desirable guarantees of solidity and responsibility was in the process of formation with the Duke of Galliera, whose name was felt to be a tower of strength, at the head of it. Now that hope has vanished. But it is remarkable that the widowed Duchess sent a letter the other day to the papers, in which she desied a variety of state-

ments respecting her late husband, which had been made by a writer in the Journal des Débats; and in the course of this letter she very specially affirms that the Duke had absolutely determined not to entertain the proposal of putting himself at the head of a company for the working of the railways. Now, if the lady is accurate in her statements, it would follow, either that the late Dake disguised his purpose in this respect from the Cabinet, which is extremely improbable; or that the Ministry, if they did not de ceive the country on this point, suffered it to deceive itself, and to live in a fool's paradise as regards a matter on which it is above all others anxious. Accordingly, a day or two ago the Diritto, which is the principal organ of the Ministry, published a little article declaring that the statements of the Duchess were not altogether accurate. Now I thought proper to telegraph these circumstances to London, adding that "probably the Diritto alluded to the declaration of the Duchess, that her late husband had decided not to have anything to do with the projected company for the working of the railways." And the Minister of the Interior ent out this remark from my telegram, affording thereby a very convincing proof that the Diritto did allude to the statement in question, and that the Ministers | For the five windows long curtains are prepared with did feel themselves to be attacked by the assertion that whereas the country had been for months past believing that the Duke of Galliera was about to undertake the railways, he had all the time declared that he would do nothing of the sort. This mention of telegrams leads me to speak of an

excellent measure of improvement which it seems probable that the present Ministry are about to confer on us. The Cabinet, it would seem, are about to relinquish the right which the law has intherto given them of forbidding telegrams to be forwarded at their discretion. And it must be admitted that or brie a-brac. such an act of abnegation will imply a specially meriterious exercise of self-denial on the part of Baron Nicotera, our present Minister of the Interior and censor of telegrams. Notwithstanding the loud ontery which the "Liberal" party have ever made against this supervision of telegrams, when they were in opposition, no sooner had they come into power than more telegrams were stopped than had ever been the case under the former regime. During three years of the reign of the "Mederates," it happened to use to have one telegram stopped once. But that misfortune had happened to me three times before the "Liberals" had been in power one ferinight. And my fate in this respect was not harder than that of others. In fact, the change will is all probability be due to the great outer; which has been caused by Signer Nicotera's despetic and excessive abuse of the power given to him by the law.

Nevertheless, it must be owned that the present "liberal" Ministry are doing some good things. They have as yet had no opposition whatever to contend with. Their adversaries are "giving them rope enough." But in all fairness it must be confessed that as yet they have not used it for the laudable purpose for which it has been given to them. Among other activities in the way of improvement is a scheme for the amelioration of the mode of proceeding in the Chamber of Deputies. It is proposed, and will in all probability be carried, to abandon the system of "Uffizi" or "Bureaux," which was imitated from the French practice, and adopt the English system of first, second, and third reeding of a bill. The present plan, as practiced here, wastes an infinity of time, and the economy in that precions commodity which will result from the system of doing the real work of examining and discussing measures in detail at a second reading in committee of the whole house will be very great in-

The new President of the Chamber, Francisco Crispi, a radical of the radicals, has also i magurated a system which, it is to be hoped, will be operative to correct an evil which has of late years been increasing in the Italian Parliament till it had become wellnigh intolerable; I mean the absence of members from no other reason than that they preferred to be amusing themselves or attending to their own affairs instead of to those of the nation, the care of which had been, at their own seeking, intrusted to them by their fellow-citizens. Signer Crispi's remedy for an evil, which his predecessor, Signor Biauchi, was always complaining of, is to cause every sitting commence with a roll-call of the members, and to have the name of every absentee without leave published in the official gazette. It is to be hoped that it will not occur to any honorable member to ask, as the traditional Irish member, with unabashable impadence, is said to have asked of the English Speaker, Manners Sutton, who had threatened, when he would not obey a call to order, "to name simply De Ferrari. The title of Duke of Galliera, him." "And place, Mr. Spaker, what will happen if He, being a foreign subject, could freely use it in bands and with uplifted eyes, "God only kno I am atraid that Crispi would be reduced to a somewhat similar answer. Nevertheless, the terrors of the black list may operate among less hardened

Another question, which is just at present much xercising the minds of refereners here, is the mode of appointment of the mayors of the towns and rural communes. Are they to be elected by those whose affairs they are to administer, voting on a more or less extended system of electoral franchise, or are they to be nominated by the Covernment the "liberal" Ministry are, by virtue of their party appellation, much disposed foward the former party appellation, much disposed foward the former system. But it is admitted on all hands that the twofold capacity of the mayor—or syndie, as he is called here—be being in one character the adminis-trator of the affairs of the commune, and in the other the medium of communication between the central government and the populations—makes it difficult for the central authority to relinquish all control over the amount and the population. central government and the populations—makes it difficult for the central authority to relinquish all central over the appointment of him. An Luglishman's solution of the question, which would be to let the communication between the Government and the populations shift for itself, if there were ever any need of such communication—which the Englishman would not quite admit—such a solution as this would be unterly abhorrent and indeed mantelligible to the Latin minds of the inhabitants of the pennsula. It is impossible for them to conceive that the social machinery of a community can work satisfactorily without the existence of means ready at hand for the Government to poke a finger into every social pie. And there is little hope that they should be able to conceive the idea of leaving beople to govern themselves after the Anglo-Saxon fashion, at any rate for many a generation to come. But it might, one would have thought, have been found not impossible to make the Prefect discharge all the governmental administrative functions which the central authority find it nepossible to relinquish.

it nepossible to relinquish.

Assuredly the present regime has not worked sat-Asserting, especially in several of the larger and more inpertant cities, which are all, with the excep-tion, I tank, of Turin, almost hopelessly in debt. tion, I think, of Turin, almost topelessly in debt. This condition of the Communes is a subject of very grave preaccepation and measiness here, and I shall take an epportunity on some future occasion to give your readers a little detailed information on a subject which is far too large an one to enter on at the fag end of an already long letter.

T. A. TROLLOPE.

UNQUIET ELEMENTS IN GERMANY.

From The Pull Mall Gazette, Dec. 23. It would be a profound mistake to suppos It would be a profound inistake to suppose that frince fisanarek does no harm by his despote method of noverment. In might be true if Germany were, on the whole, a contented nation; but beneath the caim surface libers are mmy elements of tremendous peril. Polash deputies do not measure to assert in Parliament that they and their constituencies have no desire to remain connected with the Empire; and if the Alastians do not say as much, that is because the fact is too notorious to need formal statement. We hear less than we did some time ago of the "Culturkampf;" but it still goes on, and has infused into ecclesiastical factions a internose which has not existed since the period of the Turry Years' War. The Ultramontaires so deplore their own weakness that their lenders have begun to long for the break-up of Austro-Hangary, in the hope that he has break up of Austro-Hangary, in the hope that he has break up of ar. The Colors have begun to long for the overall distribution in their feeders have begun to long for the overall distribution in the struggle which the newlines they may find alies in the struggle which the provinces they may find alies in the struggle which the colors have the colors of the c on forced upon them. Even more dangerous are tal Democrats, who do not make so much noise in world, but who against incessantly, and confidently ect in the approaching elections to add largely to r strength in Parliament. They aim at social rather their strength in Parliament. They aim at secal rather than mere political reorganization, and are much more profoundly interested in tasir class than in their country. Heins long ago predicted that the future belonged to them, and "Prince Bismarck himself has more than once speken of their designs with muscani solemnity. All these parties, differing widely among themselves, are agreed in detesting German institutions in their present form; and their hostliny is incensified by the system of stern repression which now prevails. By and by there will be no Prince Bismarck to hold them in check; his place will be tasen by some Minister who cannot possibly have his prestige and is not likely to have his practical sagacity and enermous strength of will. Then the demand for liberty will be intered in very different tones from those at present heard; and it will indeed be scribus for the impire if it should be utfered at a time when France feels nersed ready for that war of revenge for which are steadily prepares.

ART FURNITURE.

PERSONAL AND HOME ORNAMENTS.

SHIONABLE STYLES FOR HOUSE FURNISHING-DRAPERIES AND ORNAMENTS-QUEEN ANNE AND RASTLAKE DESIGNS-PILLARS AND PEDESTALS-BRIC-A-BRAC, FLOWERS-ANTIQUE AND MODERN

The subject of home decoration and furnishing is receiving great attention, and the ingenuity of the most skillful artificers is taxed to the utmost by those of our eltizens who are able to gratify their tastes. A TRIBUNE reporter has made inquiries of soveral manufacturers and dealers and obtained the following informa-

A set of bousehold furniture is being made to order in roadiness for the Spring. The dining-room set is in the Queen Anne style. The buffet, eight feet high and six wide, is beveled, with mirror panels alternating with English majohen tile. The keys, hinges, and rings for handles and escutcheons are brass. The chairs are of carved mahogany uphoistered in superb raw slik tapestry. The extension-table is square, measuring four feet six by five feet on the top. There are four massive curved legs at each corner, and a center leg to of the extension opening in three parts lambrequies of raw silk tapestry hang on brass poles and large rings, finished with acorn fringe. There is a large serven six feet high in four leaves, the framework of mahogany and panels of tapestry. The chimney-piece is a most artistle piece of furniture, made of superhy carved mahogany iniald with majolica tiles emblematic of the uses of the room. A roof-top in initiation of shingles projects two feet from the side wall, and is furhished with a series of shelves from the roof down to the mantel-shelf. There is an alcove in the center surmounted by a light pole and ring cornice with hanging curtains to protect from dust some costly hit of pottery

The library furniture, Eastlake design, is in ash, consisting of eight bookcases, with nickel-plated teimnings in rich and unique designs; the chairs and lounge are upholstered in Maita tapestry, and the table shows a very novel and claborate seems of incised carvings in ash of such designs as ulfarithus, scrobs, pods of seed, beading, leaves, and fret-work. The drawing-room set is of the Saron-Gothic style, delicately and curiously carved in white holly, of a creatay tvery tint; and, in exquisite contrast, is upholstered in pale blue satin, with upper rolls and bands of velvet in a darker shade. The cornices of carved white boily are hung with long white drapecies banded with blue velvet, corded edges, and rich, wide silk fringe. A center divan to correspond is surmounted by a classic bronze figure resting beneath the chandeler made to match the turniture in white and gold. The niniu chamber furniture is in designs after the Remaissance, in maple with carvings of mahogany. The bedstead is superbly canopied in drab and bine; the dressing-case, of an original design, has bevoled glass and quaintly carved brass handles to the drawers; the

siab is of purest white marble. Among the odd chairs, one is of antique shape, square, with low back, circular scroll arms, and is elaborately upinelstered in embroidered silk tapestry, with veivet side bands, Turkish tassels, and bravily knotted fringe. There is no woodwork visible. There are several small,

grapevines in raised were the module and there flashes the rich purple of grapes. A hugh center-piece for the table, also used on a pestestal, is made in dark institution only and connec centings of bacchanies, faints and dryacs; the base in thack has leveled reliefs. A very beautiful pillar is decorated in the Pompetian style in needathous showing groups of vases, clusters of fruit, and a six-pointed star in gold. The edges are carved with scrott work and brasches of oak and ofte, birds artificial clubbing plants for the decoration of clumde-liers, necure frames, alcoves, and melocarsial nature in bunity and grace, and are sold for 50 cents a yard. A fastleniere can be filled with any style of pytumidal bou-quet or low dropping clusters and vinca for from \$5 to \$20, warranted to retain their beauty and freshness cor-

ig the season. Pans of the present season are surpassingly beautiful. after the masters of the seventeenth and eighteenth cut-turies, and above all, in the style of Teniers, Watteau, Superb curies estrich feathers, in brown and black, are mounted in torioise shell, with which the colors of the feathers correspond in method brown and amber. The white fan, indispensable for full dress, is of decorated while fan, indispensible for full dress, is of decorated kid, edin, and point lace, or silk with charming landscapes or exquisite flowers driffing across one side. These are monated on sticks of ivory emborately carved; others have attended on the self-subject showing every rain-time line. There are duck Spanish fans, with finely painted desums, after Gresze, by Iamous French arists; a new sayle of fan, with delectedy carved violetwood sticks, has each stick decorated with a painting of a front of the paint, or can't of a chamm, of some other tropical plant. Lovely indicating as are under of the saying eathers from the locate of the output. downy teathers from the breast of the estricit.

Vary in price, according to their beauty and work side. Press 55 to \$100.

Antiquarians can have their tastes fully gratified in inspecting curses, now on exhibition and for sale, of antique jewelry full of remantle and historical associations. A gold watch and chatelaine, made for a bridal gift presegled to Marie Antoinette, is among the curios. The aides of the watch have encircling it a garland of forget-me-nots in bine cosmel and precious stones. The hands are increased with diamonds. On the back, the temple of Cupid in the garden of the Trianon is carved in red agate surrounded by a wreath of chameled flowers and precious stones. The chalelaine class bolds one center gold pendant bar, and two, one on each side, of gold in red chamel black diogether in separate bars; each one has an engraved motto in black letters emblematic of love and fidelity. The center bar is gold and red enamel, with cameos of red agate, also eightfacant of truth and fidelity, as a pudlock, dog, tower, altar or thing, torch, and arrows. There are also three scals and a key. This is valued in at \$1,400. A watch, owned by Napoleon L, and which was worn by him through the campaign in Expt, shows the time at five different cities. The folchain is gold, enameled in bline. Another very beautiful watch has upon its back, in chamel, Eurus and his family. The edges are set with large pearls. A narvelous piece of antique merhanism is a title clock with a watch face set near the top; at the back, on a dark enameled surface, are they gold capids in reflet. A spring, when touched, produces soit uniding music; a cupid harmaers on a tiny gold anyl; another keeps a treadle in regular motion, setting a wheel in action whereon a third cupid holds and charpens the arrows. Another very curious and beautiful little timepiece, set with pearls and connected on gold; belonged to the Emperor of China. There is a leather traveling-case contaming a spoon, knife, and fork that belonged to the son of Marie Antoniette. Among other things are some queer pieces of Loo-Choo lacquer and Konga ware; yellewish levey Chinese idols claborately carved; old Japanese alis, painted and embroidered with gold inread for screens; howls and pance of Chinas elostone. Satsum ware, vases and cupe of Corean and Heizen pottery, cups and sancers of eggshell poxeclain decorated wi scotted to Marie Antoinette, is among the curios. The aides of the watch have encir-ling it a garland of forget-

i himogos enamel a cop and saucer is varied at \$120. A silver saucer in reponsat, done by Benvenito Celimi, is \$500. The quantity of rare bits of chima and other pollery is almost endiess. In jugs, pilgrim jugs, plaques, Limoges faience, all manner of cups, saucers, bowls, vases—from the most antique to the modera Copeland, Donition, and others.

In jewelry, a quaint and beautiful new fancy is silver initial with nicilo work in Jepanese designs in color. Earrings and pendants are in exact imitation of Japanese fains, outspread, with queer fixures and flowers in bright ennuel. For culs, inited buttons are revived; some are in cioisomé enamel in grave colors and set figures. The fashion of wearing the high coliars, ruits and bands to the necks of dresses precludes the possibility of throat ornamentation, excepting for full ovening foilet, on which occasions only can long earrings be worn. For daily wear, the fashionable earring is a solitaire diamond or shell and jet balls. The greatest variety is shown in styles—the Etruscan, Egyptian, Russian, Oriental—in fact, the most capricious tastes can be grafified. Since the Etribition there has been a strong fancy for Eussian designs, especially for gold jeweiry in cloisonné cuamel, on such unobtrusive grounds as a yellow approaching brown, a lapis-lazuli bue, olive, gray; the doriated designs show the most brilliant colors after the Bussian artists. Classical and

mythological studies are seen in superb Limeges enamely, and there are charming flower sets in Saracenic designs, such as turquoises set as flowers and mounted with pearls and diamends. Not is the Orient forgotten, for there are crescents and stars of tigers' claws, elaborately engraved. Yellow gold bands serve as supports to these strange sets. Only of black and the darkest colors, lapis-lazuli, chalcedony, and agates cut in intaglio, and cameo, retain their preëminence in spite of the most attractive noveltical. Suppline, amethyst, and malachite appear in rings of the marquise shape, cut in intaglio. Necklaces of the dog-colins shape are interlocked rings, flat links, or in fine network, and made to set close about the neck, outsido of the band of the dress. They are in two shades of gold, red and deep yellow, or else enameled. A Japanese style shows small gold enameled pendants. The popular watch-chain is fine gold, made to pass around the neck. Shall jeweiry is very fashiomable; bancles are worn of gold, silver, and shelt. Eroad bands of gold for bracelets are in accordance with other styles of jewelry described. There are some magnificent things for gentlemen in the way of liquor flagons, reposses work, covered with elaborate Japanese designs, eigarettle holders, gold tobacco boxes set with diamonds, flint boxes with a fuse in elegant Damasecene work, and patent watch boxes, gold enameled.

Mesars. Herts & Co., Tiffany & Co., and Starr & Mar-

Messrs. Herts & Co., Tiffany & Co., and Starr & Mar-eus, will please accept thanks for information received.

PROPOSED POLICE CHANGES.

WHAT THE COMMISSIONERS DESIRE FROM THE LEG-

ISLATURE. At the close of the investigations made by the Legislative Committees upon Crime and the Government of Cities last year, it was thought to be clearly demonstrated that some important changes ought to be made in the regulation and government of the police in this city. Several bills having this end in view were prepared; one of them was by John L Davenport, counsel to the Senate investigating committee, the most important points of which were concurred in by the Board of Police. It was not presented until fate in the session; there was not time to meet the objections to certain sections, and the bill was not passed. Gen. Smith, President of the Board of Postated recently that the necessity recognized a year ago for marked changes in the regulation of the police force still existed. The board had endeavored to carry out such suggestions for improvement as were possible; but many of the greatest evils could not be remedied be cause the Police Commissioners have not the necessary

The present detective force, the President said, owed its inefficiency to its want of organization, and to the defective system that oblined a skillful officer to work for even less pay than a patrolman. The detective nominally received the same pay, but there was no fund from which to reimburse him for the many necessary ex-penses. It is proposed as one of the most important features of the bill that is to be introonced early in the present session of the Legis-lature, that the detective department be placed under the full centrol of a single officer, to be call d Superintendent of Detectives, and whose salary is to be \$5,000 a year. The force under this officer is to be of his election, though probably very few of those employed in this bureau will be regular members of the police force. One of the drawbacks that the present Commissioners have contended against has been the fact that the members of the present force of detectives are as well known to ordininals as they are to their officers. The pay of the employes of this branch is to be fixed by the Superintendent of Detectives, but is not to exceed \$2,500 a year. In many instances it is expected that the

There is no woodwork visible. There are several small, cozy sents of a style after the Oriental; on a frame of wood, with casters, are two cushons covered with rich sinffs, as, for instance, one with Oriental chott porcous with bright bards and flowers done in gold thread and gay silks; another in soft Persian cushmere, and again another in tolitation of Goldenia tolk present admired and chart of glit frame has square sides decorated with the sphilax; this is upholstered in dark, rich crimon relief on black satin. Among the beautiful pedestals is one in which two porcelain ties are inserted. The upper one is of torquoses blue of cercular shape. A vine of convolvable of torquoses blue of cercular shape. A vine of convolvable of torquoses blue of cercular shape. A vine of convolvable of the convolvable in \$2,200. The cognils deners will had for power to dismiss members of the lore will once the larges
in regularly preferred, but by a concurrent vote of all the
red members of the board, for the space of three
test mentins only after the passage of the bill. After
reds that time, the method of distainsal after trial upon
charges preferred according to present haw, is to again
est be in full force. President Smith said that in that
the period of three months all the good could be gained that

REOGELYNS PROPOSED INSANE ASYLUM.

PROJECT OF THE BUSINESS WOMEN'S UNION-OPINION OF CHARITY COMMISSIONER NORIGIS. The project of an insane asylum within the

limits of Errecklyn-mention of which has already been made in THE TRIBUNE-originated with the members of the local visiting committee of the State Charities Aid Association, Mrs. Mary W. Manufag and Mrs. Auna C. Field. Mrs. Field recently state 1 to a Trinting reporter that several buildings have been visited by committee having the work in charge, which consists of Mrs. Manning, Mrs. Field, Mrs. Sarah N. Parsons, Mrs. Dow, Mrs. Mary H. Holley and others. The committee wish to find a building arge enough to accommodate at least 20 patients, with extensive grounds. To do this they will have to go to a considerable distance from the more thickly settled portions of the city. It is not thought possible to begin the work without having secured \$1 ,000, as whatever buildog is chesen will have to be changed in many respects h order to render it fit for an insane asylum. The asylum or "home," as it will be call d, will not be modeled after any existing institution, but the better features of several will be adopted. The committee declares that the onduct of the institution will be the best that it is possible to secure. It will not be a charitable enterprise at it is intended to be self-supporting. If the paid patients contribute more than the running expenses of the home require, a few patients may be received gratuitously. Mrs. Field hopes that the home will be opened before the close of the month of January. Dr. Thomas P. Norris, President of the Board of Char ity Commissioners, says that the Flatbush asylum had about 800 patients, and their present building was crowded, but a new building had been erected and was soon to be occupied, which would commodate 300 persons. About 100 patients paid for their board. He had no objections to the establishment of any number of private asylume if there was any warrant that they would be properly conducted. But this proposed home was without wealthy men to support it, and there was no guarantee whatever that it would be free from the abuses complained of in other asylums. The Bloomingdale Asylum was a private institution and very wealthy, and yet complaints of cruelty on the part of nurses had recently been made. He thought that a great deal of allowance should be made whenever insane persons made complaints of ili-treatment, as such statements were nearly always the rayings of disordered minds. In regard to the charges against the Flatbush Asylum, which were investigated by the the Flatbush Asylum, which were investigated by the State Commissioner of Lunaey about a year ago. Dr. Norris said they had been grossly exaggerated. For twenty years before that time not a complaint had been made. There were patients in the asylum whose friends had taken them away from the private asylum in Flushing, where \$40 a wees had been paid for their board, because the treatment at Flatbush was superior. Dr. Norris said that he approved of any plan for an asylum in Brooklyn which promised to succeed. It the women's Union had from \$300,000 to \$500,000 and founded a large asylum, to be conducted on good principles he large asylum, to be conducted on good principles, he thought that success was certain; if, nowever, they inched to start a small institution, without a guaranty of good conduct, the project, in his judgment, would prove a failure. The Fiatioush Asylum, he said, was more economically conducted than any other in the State, and was in the main a charitable institution.

"Michael, how came you to know the prisoner?" "Shure, I had him to board." "Ab, you take boarders now, do you?" "To be shure I do, your honor." "How long since!" "Iver since ye would not put me on the perlice." "Yes, Michael, you are the man take boarders now, so you? "To be squre! I do, your nonor." "How long since!" "Iver since ye would not put me on the perfice." "Yes, Michael, you are the man who applied both as a Democrat and Republican, I believe!" "Indade, an' that's me ye mane." "Well, Michael, if you were to apply now for a position or the force, whice party would you belong to!" "Well, your honor, it would not be a Republican I would be, at all, at all, at all." "Why not?" "Bekase my face is agin me!"

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

TWEED'S APPEAL FAILS. THE SIX MILLION JUDGMENT APPIRMED BY THE GENERAL TERM.

The appeal of William M. Tweed from the judgment ugainst him in the suit for \$6,000,000 has been decided by the Supreme Court, General Term, and the judgmest is affirmed. Judge Davis gives the opinion, the other judges concurring. Two-thirds of the opinion are taken up with a discussion of technical questions in regard to the struck jury. On the main points of appeal the optnion says:

the opinion says:

The exceptions taken during the progress are too numerous to be noticed in detail. The sist of the action was so alleged conspiracy between the defendant Tweed and one Watson to defrand the city and county of New York of large sums of money. The evidence that may be given in such actions is not to be restricted by narrow and technical rules. Whatever feeds to prove the conspiracy and its objects and purposes, and—if sufficient evidence be given to carry the case to the jury upon the question of conspiracy—whatever declarations or acts of citner party that tend to prove its objects and purposes, or accomplishment, are always admissible. In nearly, if question of conspiracy—whatever declarations or acts of either party that tend to prove its objects and purposes, or accomplishment, are always admissible. In nearly, if not in every instance, the testimony objected to in the progress of the trial tended to establish one of those propositions with more or less directness and force, and if some portions of the ovidence can be said to have been immaterial and meansequential, they cannot also be said to have been jegally prejudicial to the defendant. The case against him was made out upon an abundance of clear and antiquently of the plaintiffs to recover. More evidence than was necessary seems to us to have been given, and some excluded. But it should be recollected in considering this case that no substantial defense whatever was made or proved; no contradiction of any misterial fact bearing upon the cause of action was made by evidence, nor was any explanation of such facts given by evidence produced on the part of the defendant in regard to such cause of action. The contest was simply one of legal obstructions, consisting of all the acute and sometimes about the path of justice. Such a defense desurved no favor at the bands of the court and ought not to succeed on appeal, unless it appears clearly that substantial rights of the defendant have been injury was done by any of the rulings in respect to the evidence objected to.

In passing upon the numerous requests to charge and in the charge as given we discover no error prejudicial to the descendant. On the contrary, the rulings in respect to the evidence objected to.

In passing upon the numerous requests to charge and in the charge as given we discover no error prejudicial to the descendant. On the contrary, the rulings in respect to the evidence objected to.

In passing upon the numerous requests to charge and in the charge we given we discover no error prejudicial to the descendant. On the contrary, the rulings in respect to the descendant in a considerably less amount than the jury might otherwise have give

quests and the charge were, in our opinion, far more favorable to the defendant than he was entitled to by law, and the verdict is in consequence for a very considerably less amount than the jury night otherwise have given. The rule adopted as the measure of damages was acceded to—for the purpose of avoiding all question—by the learned commel for the people. It was altogether more favorable to the defendant than strict hav required. There is no necessity therefore of considering it further. The motion for a new trial on the minutes of the court was made in these general terms, "for manificant evidence and for excessive damages." The court denied the motion. It is very clear that the damages were not excessive if the plaintiffs were extitled to recover stall. What was main by insufficient evidence does not appear, but if it was intended by that phrase to mean that there was not sufficient proof of the city, it is enough to say that there was vidence sufficient to require the submission of this curvilent to the jury, and so far as any point made on the motion is concerned the vertict of the jury a conclusive.

The order and judgment appealed from should therefore be stimmed with costs.

On the appeal from the order allowing \$60,000 extra

On the appeal from the order allowing \$60,000 extra costs to the plaintiffs, Judge Davis says the Court's first impression was that it was excessive, but on consideration of all the facts-the previous suits, the expense in employing experts and accountants and able counselthe sum seems not more than the expense the defendant's frauds have imposed on the city. This allowance is not likely to be a precedent, as such a case can hardly ever arise again, and a late statute has limited the mount of allowances. This order is therefore confirmed

THE ASTORIA MASKED BURGLARS. THREE OF THE PRISONERS WILLING TO PLEAD

GUILTY-EXAMINATION OF PATRICE CAFFRAY.

The residents of Astoria and Ravenswood are profuse in their thanks to Capt. Murray and Detective Carr of this city for their arrest of the masked burgiars. The announcement that three of the prison ers, James, McCarthy, and Riley, had confessed then complicity in the crime is denied. They have signified, owever, their willingness to plead guilty if the Dis triet-Alternoy will intercede with the Court for a light sentence. James says, "If we can get a light sentence say ten years, we will get out or die in the attempt." McCarthy stated yesterday that Roberts and Schmidt were not with them on the night of the burgiaries; that Riley and bieself went to Astoria alone, reaching Green's dock just as the rest of the gang were leaving Green's house, but that they went to Hillier's place McCarthy also says that after leaving Hillier's, and while in the noat, there was a quarrel as to the division of the plunder, at which James became caraged, and abot Patrick Caffray; the wound, however, was slight. party landed on the New-York shore at One-hundredad stxtheat., and hid the stolen property at Yorkville. I evening and divide. James McCarthy and Riley went to the place and found that the property had been removed, it having been stolen by Patrick Caffray. All that McCarthy received was 85 and a segar-holder. A third search of James was made yesterday by order of the Sheriff, and a large carving knife was found secreted in the the lining of his overcont. Roberts, who feels con-fident of preving an alibi, was visited by uts counsel, to whom he gard a power of attorney to dispose of his si-

loon at No. 90 Janueset. Storing after the counsal way, Roberte's wife cailed and had a long interview with sim. She also was given a "ower of attorney to dispose of the place, and instructed to have the power given to the hawyer revoked. Riley, whose right name is carroll, has been visited by his brother, and as he was the first to plead gurity, at I be used as a witness against the others, and also were successful to the Board of Supervisors an additional grand has been put in at the County Jail.

Patrick Caffras, or Colley, who was arrested on Thursday not may by Capt. Morray, or suspecton of being one of the Autoria masked burglars, was arrangued before Recorder Parcells yesterday. The prisoner oleaded not, gairly. Mos Hiller believed he was one of the near who robbed her father's house, but could not positively identify him. He admitted having served a term in State Prison for attenueted burglary and a term in Blackwell's Island for carrying burglars tools. He is 21 years of age, a native of the United States, a boiler-matter by trade, and resides at No. 331 East Thirty-fourth-st. He was fully committed to await the action of the Grand Jury. of the Grand Jucy.

ICE AND SNOW TO BE REMOVED. THE CORPORATION COUNSEL DECIDES THAT THE POLICE BOARD HAS DISCRETIONARY POWER-

THE WORK TO BEGIN ON SUNDAY, At the meeting of the Police Board yester-

day, the opinion of Corporation Counsel Whitney, in reference to the powers and duty of the board in the removal of snow and tee from the streets, was read. The counsel states that Section 1, Chapter 677 of the laws of 1872, provides that the Police Board shall hav full and exclusive power and authority, and is thereby charged with the duty of causing all streets, etc., in the city of New-York to be thoroughly cleaned from time to time, and kept at all times "thoroughly clean," and to remove from the city daily, and as often as may be recessary, all street refuse or nuisances which the Health Board may order to be removed. The duty in reference to dead animals, offal and night soil, impure meats and other refuse, was given to the Health Board by the laws of 1874, otherwise the section of the act of 1872, is in full force. The law plainly includes ice and snow, The streets should be cleaned in Summer and Winter. In fact the commangling of snow and dirt frequently makes the streets dirtier in Winter than in Summer. The act of 1872 deprived the city of power to contract for street cleaning and the work devolved upon the Police Board exclusively. Unless, therefore, the Police Board has the power to remove the snow and ice no other authority possesses it. The action of the Board of Apportionment makes no difference. That is a discretionary power with it under the laws. It is presumable that they thought \$725,000 was sufficient to enable the Police Board to fulfill all its duties. There are no restrictions in regard to the use to be made with the money. The appropriation is made "for cleaning streets under the Police De partment." The act of 1872, by implication if not expressly, authorizes the removal of snow an ice, and therefore the Police Commissioners have as much right to use the appropriation for that purpose as for the removal of anything else. If the section does not authorize the removal of snow and ice, then the board has no power whatever in the matter, and could not remove it, even if the Board of Apportionment made a special appropriation for that purpose. After all, the question of cleaning the streets is a matter of discretion with the Police Board. Under the charter of 1873, the board cannot incur any expense exceeding the annual appropriation. It follows therefore that, although the statute makes it the duty of the board to keep the streets at all times "thoroughly clean," the degree of cleanli at all times "thoroughly clean," the degree of cleanliness depends upon the amount of expropriation. The Board of Police, therefore, in determining the amount of snow and ice to be removed, should consider the amount of money it has to do it with, and in every year should expend the money at such times as will in its judy sout be most for the public interest and convenience.

The commissioners discussed at some length the wisdom of taking action. It was the general opinion that it would be unwise and unsafe to use any great portion of the \$725,000 appropriated for the current year for cleaning the anow, as the sanitary condition of the city in the warm weather would have to be provided for. A resolution was adopted that, as the opinion of the Corporation Counsel left the matter at the discretion of the board, the Inspector of Street Cleaning be directed.

tion Counsel left the matter at the discretion of the board, the Inspector of Street Cleaning be directed to take prompt measures for the removal of snow and ice from the principal and most crowded thoroughtares. In accordance with the resolution, the commissioners de-elded to have the ashes and garbage removed to-day, be-

riching at 1 p. m. It was also determined to begin the work of cleaning off the ice and snow on Sunday from Broadway and the principal streats of the city, especially those streats where railroud tracks are laid, so that by Monday night or Tuesday morning the principal thoroughfarcs may be in good condition for travel. The commissioners fear that they will be embarrassed for funda before the end of the year, but, acting in accordance with the opinion of the Corporation Courset, will make an effort to clean the principal streets of snow and ice.

PERILS OF OCEAN TRAVEL.

WORK ON THE AMERIQUE—SUFFERINGS OF THE CREW OF THE ISLAND BELLE. The cargo of the stranded steamer Amerique

still continues to arrive here by lighter and railroad. R was stated at the company's office yesterday that if the was stated at the continued favorable the vessel would be entirely unloaded by to-night. The Coast Wrecking Company's steamer Rollef came to the city last evening with two lighters loaded with the cargo. The coal is also being taken from the vessel and landed on the beach. It was stated yesterday by an agent of the company that attempts would probably be made at high tide to-morrow

to float the vessel off.

The steamship California, which arrived yesterday from Glasgow, reports having fallon in with the schooner Isbuid Beile, of Rockland, Maine, on Jan. 7, in distress, and brought from her to New-York the wife and child of the captain, Martin Woodman, who were in a feeble con-dition. The California provided the schooner with previsions, coal, and water. Mrs. Woodman makes the fat. lowing statement: "We left St. Johns, N. F., on Dec. 3. and on the sixth day out, when about nine miles from Halifax, we lost our sails in a heavy gale of wind-We encountered five heavy gales of wind. During this time the cabin was repeatedly filled with water. Our sails were all blown away, with the exception of a tore stayoull and jib, and the schooner was at the meroy of the violent seas owing to not having enough canvas to lay to. We lost all our wood and coal, and all the water which was on deck, and were not able to get any water out of the hold, as we could not take of the batches. We were obliged to live on raw salt beef for 15 days. The weather was jusufferably cold, and two of the satiers were badly frozen. The mate, Eldridge Dean, died from cold and exposure on Dec. 28." When Mrs. Woodman left the schooter she was sading under a forestayani, and the used as a mainsal. The captain interded to put back to St. Johns, N. F., for repairs, from which port he was 140 miles distance.

and fib used as a uninsali. The capitals intended to put back to St. Johns, N. F. for repairs, from which port he was 140 miles distant.

A dispatch was received yesterday from Panama stating that the steamer Wilmington, which was encaged in trying to float the stranded steamer Georgin of the Pacific Mail Line, ashore in the Straits of Magailan, had arrived at Valparaise on Dec. 7, whither she had gobe for coal. She reported that if a sufficient quantity of coment had been supplied success would have attended the efforts to fl at the Georgia. The Wilmington was to return to the Straits of Magailan on Dec. 14.

The brig O. B. Stillman, from lay of Islands, Dec. 15, for Liverpool, experienced terrific gales, and was blown back among the Islands, where she was driven school, but afterward succeeded in getting of, and drifted had her was the warm of the strain of Magailan on Dec. 14.

The brig Stella, which arrived here yesterday from New orteans, was run into on Jan. 4 by the Swedishburk Frentiden from Hampton Goods. The Stella had her bowspert and figurenced carried away, but received no further serious change. The Frentiden had her forward bulwarks slove in, and was obliged to put back to Hampton Ronds for repairs.

The step Abeenna, which arrived here on Jan. 10.

but warks stove in, and was congen to pit cases to Hamp-ton Roads for repairs.

The stop Abreona, which arrived here on Jan 10, picked up one of the lost steamship Montgemery's life-ted to a Jan 9 about 50 miles south-east of Barnagat Ligat. It was full of water, and there were a last ard two odd boots in it.

Withiam Sinclair of New York, a seams nor the schooner Mary A. Witnam, fell overboard on Jan 6, while the vessel was on a voyage from St. Mare to this port, and was lost.

was lost.

The crew of the schooner Anila, which arrived here on Taursday afternoon, suffered intensely from cold on their passage from St. Thomas. The hands and fost of two sailors, Joseph Adams and Francis Perkenlow, were badly frozen, and they were removed to the Long island.

this port are the State of Virginia of the State line from

OVERDUE STEAMSHIPS. Among the steamships that are overdue at

Glasgow, due Jan. 5; the August Andre, from Antwerp, due Jan. 2 : the Rotterdam, from Rotterdam, due Jan. 7: and the Colombo, now 40 days out from Hull. It is thought that some accident has happened to the machinery of the Colombo, or that her coal has run short, and that the vessel is under sail. Several vessels arrive ing lately have been greatly over time; the Auglia, for instance, which was 31 days out before she was beard from, and then arrived in Halifax, Jan. 8, short of coal, and with one of her steam-cylinders damaged The August Andre has a general cargo, which is insured in Paris and Antwerp companies. The agent does not feel any atarm or appro-heasion about this vessel or the R sterdam, our hension about this vessel or the Rationalam, our times their delay is due to the unfavorable weather and strong westerly gales. Some anxiety is left in regard to the State of Virginia, which is now overdue seven days by those who have friends on board, though one gentle

MEANS OF HEATING STREET CARS. At the first meeting of the Railroad Com-

nittee of the Aldermen yesterday, the proposition & heat the street cars during the Winter months was con sidered. Alderman Cole advocated the measure, and submitted plans from B. Hayden, Columbus, Oldo, for filled with water and placed under the seats, the water to be heated by a patent process. Representatives of various patents for heating cars ex-

hipited models. The Casanelli patent companion heater a toot-warmer for use in sleighs and cars, was shown, A composition made to burn slowly for several hours furnishes heat. Vandervoort's car heater, a stove placed beneath the car, with an air-chamber, and in its action and principle similar to an ordinary furnace, with regresers opening into the exemas said to be in use on the Athanta Avenue line, Brooklyn, at a cost for coal of 25 cents per day for each are belong offered to heat the cars without the use of fire or steam, by a putent process, for \$4.50 per car for the Winter scason, the heat to be applied to the floor of the ears. The agent of Pulser's low-pressure steam heater for rainwest said in was a suff-feeder, with a magazine holding sufficient coal for 12 hours, and could be used for 20 cents per day on each car. A model of Glubon's car-beater was shown—a stove made of cast from to be placed under the seat. It was said to be in use in the Albany and Troy Horse Rairroad. neath the car, with an air-chamber, and in its a-Troy Horse Railroad.

Troy Horse Railroad,
The committee has requested the officers of street railroads to be present at the next meeting.

FAILURES AND ASSIGNMENTS.

Register Dayton has adjudicated Jeremiah V. Spader a voluntary bankrapt on his own petition. The Habilities are \$102,000, of which \$102,000 is secured. The assets are nominally larger than the liabilities Among the secured creditors are Peter and Robert Goelet, \$82,531 86; New-York Central and Hudson

River Radroad Company, \$40,000; estate of B. Biance, \$10,000; Walter T. Hatch, \$6,000; Oscar H. Steams. \$4,800; W. S. Spader, \$1,200. The principal unsecure ereditors are Peter W. Williamson, \$12,000; Wm. Miles. \$6,000; assignee of Novelty Iron Works, \$4,202; estate of B. Blanco, \$6,146. The assets consist of real estate valued at \$70,000; bonds and mortgages, \$20,000 notes. valued at \$70,000; bends and mortgages, \$20,000 notes, \$40,000; stocks, par value, \$130,000; debts due \$0,000. The faiture of Boothby & Lascelles, importers of isquarant No. 189 Pation-st., was unnounced yesterday. A meeting of the creditors has been called.

An assignment for the benefit of creditors was find yesterday with the County Clerk by Jo epā E. Trippe and Joseph E. Trippe, jr., (Joseph E. Trippe & Son & William H. Trippe.

William II. Trippe.

PROPOSED METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.

In a pamphlet just issued by O. Vandenburgh it is stated that the "Great Metropolitan Railway Company" has purchased the rights of the New York City Central Unitepurchased the rights of the New York City Central Under-ground Railway Company. The charter was obtained in 1868 and 1869. There was authority to make a main time, a branch line to the Central Park, and connecting lines with steam and horse railreads. The nais-tine was restricted within certain limits. It must be in the City Hall Park, under Lafayette Place. Fourthere, from Eighth to Fourteenth at, and Union and Section 1997. Eighth to Fourceanth-at, and Union and Matison squares to cations were made by the company and maps find in March. cations were made by the company and maps find in March. 1870. The courts have held that the company became sized of the right of way in all of the streets, avenue and public places where the bress were located. In the Fall of 1874 a judgment was obtained against the company by Mr. Vandesbursch, the chief creditor, for \$50.00. Law stitts followed, and on Jan. 11, 1876, the final decree for closing the accord incorregage and ordering the sale of tractage and property was rendered. On each, is all rights to reach had extremely the title was absolute. The minimum object of the erreat Metropontan Raiswa Cappany is to carry out this metroposition via state. Its immediate work is the construction of the fine as located from the Office of the point of combection of of trainfer with the land at Pourth ave, hear or north of the Grand Cantral Depot. To

AN OLD SWINDLE REVIVED.

The prize lottery swindle, a thousand times es posed, has appeared again, this time at No. 732 Breakers, with "A. T. Junes" as cashier, and nobody in particular amanagers. The present enterprise, which is named the Mccantille Prize Association, and prefends to have a "Grand leaf" Distribution" of valuable articles, gives to the holder official No. 3.241, now in "The Transport of the holder of the second of the products.

Distribution" of valuable articles, gives to the holder official No. 3,241, now in The Tribune office, a valuable molecular worth \$125, as soon as "one deliar (with \$6.50 for expressed and packing)" is sent to the generous Mr. James. A circular containing this information was sent to an Indiana sentional who for warded it to New-York for investigation.

A Tribune reporter called at No. 732 broadway, \$231, as found, as might have been expected, that A. T. James has found, as might have been expected, that A. T. James has never been heard of at that number. Hooms up stairs were compied by "Mr. Shaller," as person of moderal and retring halts. The furniture was scant and fitted for specaly removal.

There was certainly no meledeon within sight. Mr. Shaller is a short, thick-set man, who betrayed some agustion at inquestions of the reporter.